

John Flynn

My name is John Flynn, and I live in Kalama. In 2008, the Washington State Legislature established limits for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Washington. Those requirements can be found in the Revised Code of Washington, RCW 70.235.020. In its 2019 update, Ecology recommended the following updated statewide reduction goals for GHG emissions. By 2020, reduced overall emissions of greenhouse gases in the state to 1990 levels. By 2035, reduced overall emissions of greenhouse gases in the state to 25% below 1990 levels. By 2050, the state will do its part to reach global stabilization levels by reducing overall emissions to 50% below 1990 levels.

The Department of Ecology issued its Washington State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report to the legislature in December, 2018. The key findings of this report were; Washington's 2015 total greenhouse gas emissions were 97.4 million metric tons. Washington's 2015 total greenhouse emissions were 7.4 million metric tons higher than the 1990 baseline.

Today, Department of Ecology is considering whether to de-grant or deny a permit for the construction and operation of a fracked gas-to-methanol refinery in Kalama that would add 4.6 million metric tons of greenhouse gases per year. We know that in 2015, we were 7.4 million tons over the 1990 baseline. By adding an additional 4.6 million tons, that would equate to 12.0 million more than 1990.